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**THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--21 DECEMBER 1962**

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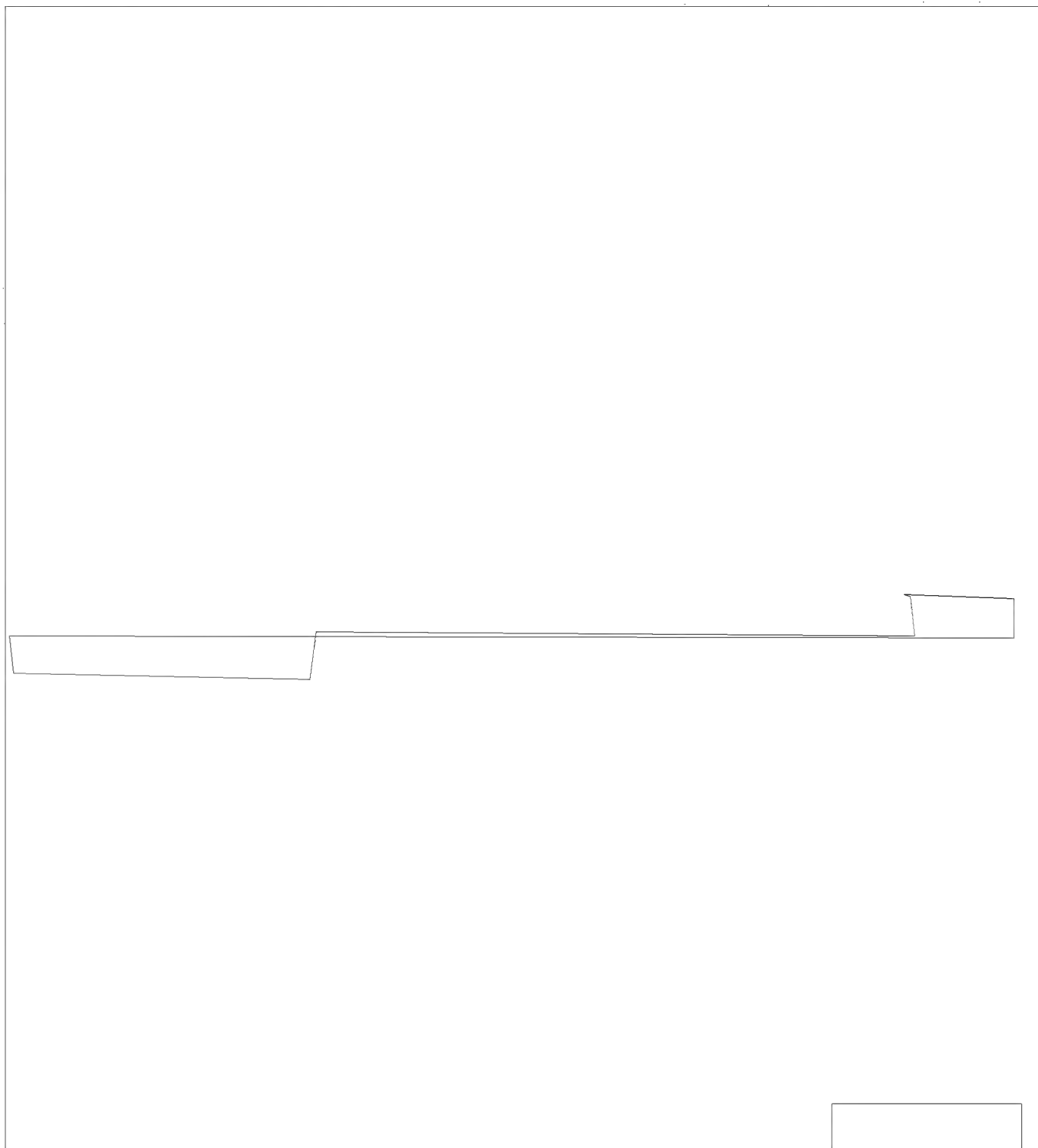
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**2. CUBA/MILITARY:**

**A. HIGH ALTITUDE PHOTOGRAPHY OF TUESDAY SHOWS CANVAS SHELTERS OVER MISSILE LAUNCHERS AT TWO OF THE SAM SITES. WE THINK THE SOVIETS HAVE IMPROVISED THESE TO PROTECT EQUIPMENT FROM THE TORRENTIAL RAINS.**

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**4. NORTH KOREA:**

**A. WE MAY BE SEEING SIGNS OF REAL DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN  
MOSCOW AND THE NORTH KOREANS, WHO HAVE FOR MONTHS LINED UP WITH**

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PEIPING IN THE BIG DISPUTE, BUT WHO HAVE TAKEN AN EVEN STRONGER STAND ON THE CUBAN ISSUE.

B. A RECENT COMMUNIQUE OUT OF PYONGYANG LAID CONSIDERABLE STRESS ON THE NEED FOR "SELF-RELIANCE" IN DEFENSE AS WELL AS ECONOMIC MATTERS. SUCH COMMENTS ARE SOMEWHAT REMINISCENT OF CHINESE STATEMENTS AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET TECHNICIANS FROM CHINA.

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C. THIS IS HARD TO SQUARE

NEWLY ARRIVED MIG-21s IN NORTH KOREA, AND WE KNOW

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THAT THE KOREANS RECEIVED

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IL-28s IN AUGUST, BUT THERE MAY HAVE BEEN A RECENT SHOW-DOWN.

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D. EARLY THIS MONTH A HIGH-LEVEL KOREAN MILITARY DELEGATION SPENT FOUR DAYS IN MOSCOW WITH TOP SOVIET MILITARY LEADERS, BUT WE HAVE NO WORD ON RESULTS.

#### 5. CUBA/POLITICAL:

A. WE NOTE FURTHER SIGNS THAT THE LEADERSHIP IS STRUGGLING WITH A MAJOR POLITICAL DECISION. THE ISSUE IS BY NO MEANS CLEAR, BUT WE SUSPECT THE CUBANS ARE AT <sup>LEAST</sup> ~~BEST~~ TOYING WITH THE IDEA OF TURNING TOWARD PEIPING.

B. CASTRO STILL AVOIDS THE LIMELIGHT. FOR THREE WEEKS HE HAD BEEN BILLED AS THE MAIN ATTRACTION AT THE FINAL AFFAIR WEDNESDAY OF A WORKERS' CONVENTION. AT THE LAST MINUTE, CHE GUEVARA SHOWED UP INSTEAD.

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C. ON MONDAY, A HAVANA NEWSPAPER, WHICH SEEMS GENERALLY  
TO MIRROR CASTRO'S VIEWS, CARRIED THE FULL TEXT OF A 15 DECEM-  
BER PEIPING EDITORIAL, THE MOST EXPLICIT ANTI-SOVIET STATEMENT  
YET PUBLISHED IN CHINA. THE ONLY OTHER COMMUNIST NATIONS TO 50X1  
REPORT IT HAVE BEEN NORTH KOREA AND ALBANIA.

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E. A CUBAN TRADE DELEGATION HAS BEEN DICKERING IN MOSCOW,  
WHERE A SOMEWHAT GUARDED COMMUNIQUE HAS BEEN ISSUED ON AN EX-  
PANSION OF TRADE, 50X1

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G. WE ARE STILL SEEING SIGNS OF ACTIVE CUBAN HELP FOR  
WOULD-BE COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS 50X1  
IN LATIN AMERICA.

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I. [REDACTED]

ECUADOREANS ARE RE-

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CEIVING GUERRILLA TRAINING IN CUBA AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE TO SEND NUMBERS OF COLOMBIANS THERE.

J. MOREOVER, WE NOW HEAR THAT SEVERAL CUBANS WERE AMONG THE LEADERS OF MONDAY'S STRIKE IN LA OROYA, PERU, AND THAT ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN PROMOTING THE SEIZURE OF RANCLAND IN THE PERUVIAN HIGHLANDS BY ANDEAN INDIANS.

6. INDONESIA:

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**7. NOTES:**

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**B. LAOS: AIR AMERICA IS APPARENTLY BEING SUBJECTED TO A  
SQUEEZE PLAY. IT IS BEING DEPRIVED OF ESSENTIAL AIRPORT**

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FACILITIES AT VIENTIANE, AND SOUVANNA SAYS HE WANTS TO USE THE RUSSIAN-PROVIDED TRANSPORTS IN THE "MAJOR AIRLIFT" BETWEEN VIENTIANE AND THE PLAINE DES JARRES, EXCLUDING AIR AMERICA "FOR THE PRESENT."

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D. CONGO: IN CONTRAST TO THE DAMAGE AT THE US CONSULATE IN ELISABETHVILLE YESTERDAY, THE KATANGESE DEMONSTRATORS PROVIDED THE UK AND FRENCH WITH MORE APPRECIATIVE TREATMENT. THEY SANG "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN" FOR THE BRITISH CONSUL, WHO MADE NO "SUBSTANTIVE" REPLY. THE FRENCH CONSUL WAS SERENADED WITH THE "MARSEILLAIS." HE REPLIED THAT FRANCE HAD NO PART IN THE U THANT PLAN AND DISAPPROVED US AND UN POLICIES.

E. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: THE ELECTIONS WENT OFF QUIETLY YESTERDAY. THE VOTE IS STILL BEING COUNTED, BUT IT APPEARS TO BE CLOSE BETWEEN FIALLO AND BOSCH.



**TOP SECRET**

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